

Appl. No.

10/527,973

Confirmation No. 7515

Applicant

Jairam R. Lingappa, et al.

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that the following Preliminary Amendment be considered prior to examination of the above-cited application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page $\underline{2}$ of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page <u>3</u> of this paper.